

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain Government PSUs like Shipping Corporation of India and others now have to wait for a longer period to obtain the status of Navratna company; and

(c) whether this delay is causing any hindrance to the rapid development of these companies in view of the fact that many restrictions are not there for Navratna companies?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is a two stage screening process for conferment of Navratna status to the eligible Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) which have Miniratna category-I status. The first stage is the screening by an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC). The recommendations of the IMC are considered by the Apex Committee. The Navratna status is granted to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) on the basis of recommendations of the Apex Committee. This process takes certain reasonable time.

(c) The Government has recently enhanced the powers delegated to Miniratna and other profit making CPSEs. The powers delegated to Miniratna category-I for capital expenditure have been increased from Rs. 300 crore or equal to networth, whichever is less, to Rs. 500 crore or equal to networth, whichever is less, and for investment in joint ventures/subsidiaries, the power for one project has been enhanced from Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 500 crore. The overall ceiling on such investment in all projects together was also increased from 15% to 30% of the networth. These are intended to enable CPSEs to grow faster.

Appointment of independent Directors in PSEs

2207. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some listed PSEs still do not have sufficient number of independent non-Government Directors as required by the Clause 49 of Listing Agreement of SEBI;

(b) if so, the details of such PSEs;

(c) whether it is a fact that failure of appointment of such independent Directors may result in de-listing of such PSEs; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to appoint independent Directors in accordance with the Listing Agreement of SEBI?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As per available information, 28 listed Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) do not have requisite number of independent Directors as required under Clause 49 of the listing agreement. The list of these 28 CPSEs is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The non-appointment of appropriate number of independent Directors as required under Clause 49 would result in non-compliance of the listing agreement. In case any clause of the listing agreement is not complied with by a listed company, delisting or suspension of its securities by the exchange is a possible course of action against such company.

(d) The Administrative Ministries/Departments have been advised from time to time to appoint the requisite number of non-official Directors on the Boards of CPSEs under their administrative control. The Administrative Ministries/Departments have been further advised to submit the proposals for selection of non-official Directors at least six months in advance of the date of occurrence of the vacancies.

Statement

*List of CPSEs listed in National Stock Exchange/Bombay Stock
' Exchange not complying with the provisions of Clause 49
relating to independent directors*

As on September 30, 2006

Sl.No	Name of CPSE
1.	Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited
2. 3.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited Bharat
4.	Petroleum Corporation Limited Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited

Sl.No.	Name of CPSE
5.	Container Corporation of India Limited
6.	Dredging Corporation of India Limited
7.	Engineers India Limited
8.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited
9.	GAIL (India) Limited
10.	Hindustan Copper Limited
11.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
12.	HMT Limited
13.	Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited
14.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited
15.	India Tourism Development Corporation Limited
16.	ITI Limited
17.	Madras Fertilizers Limited
18.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
19.	Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited
20.	National Aluminium Company Limited
21.	National Mineral Development Corporation Limited
22.	Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited
23.	NTPC Limited
24.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
25.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited
26.	Shipping Corporation of India Limited
27.	Steel Authority of India Limited
28.	State Trading Corporation of India Limited

Vacancies in PSUs

2208. SHRI G. SANJEEVA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central PSUs which are currently without a Chairman, Managing Director and Functional Directors;

(b) what is Government's proposal to fill-up the vacancies; and

(c) the time-limit set by Government to fill-up the vacancies?